

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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Serial No.: 10/698,184

Filing Date: October 31, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 125.090US01

Title: ACTIVE AREA BONDING COMPATIBLE HIGH CURRENT STRUCTURES

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Final Office Action mailed on May 24, 2005 as well as the art cited. Claims 39, 42-48, 58-63 have been amended. Claims 1-38, 57, 64-65, 68-84 have been canceled. Claims 99-102 have been added. Claims 39-56, 58-63, 66-67 and 85-102 are pending in this application.

The Examiner indicated that the objections to claims 39, 41, 47, 52, 54, 55, 57, 58, 60, 63, 85-89, 92-93, and 95-98 were withdrawn.

The Examiner further indicated that the 102(b) rejection to claims 39, 50, 67, 90, 92, and 94 and the 102(c) rejection to claims 50, 53, and 56 was withdrawn in response to Applicant's arguments filed on March 21, 2005.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 39, 41, 42, 44, 46, 48, 49, 57, 60, 63, and 66 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(c) as being anticipated by Imai et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0045088). Applicant has amended and canceled claims as set out below. As such, the rejection of the above claims under section 102 is moot and the withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 40 and 61 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai et al. Applicant has amended and canceled claims as set out below. As such, the rejection of the above claims under section 103 is moot and the withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 50-56, 67, and 85-98 were allowed.

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Claims 43, 45, 47, 58, 59 and 62 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicant has merely amended the claims pursuant to Examiner's requests in the Final Office Action to the further the application to issue into a patent. Accordingly, the Applicant retains the right to file a continuation application with claims having the same scope as set out in the original filing and any preliminary filings.

In particular, the Applicant has amended claim 39 to include the limitations in objected claim 43 and intervening claim 42. Applicant has amended objected claim 45 to include limitations in claims 39 and 42. Applicant has amended claim 46 to include the limitations in objected claims 47 and claim 39. Objected claim 38 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 57. Objected claim 59 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 57. Moreover, objected claim 62 has been amended to include the limitation in claim 57.

The Applicant has made further amendments to dependant claims and has added dependant claims to capture the original claim coverage. No new matter was added.

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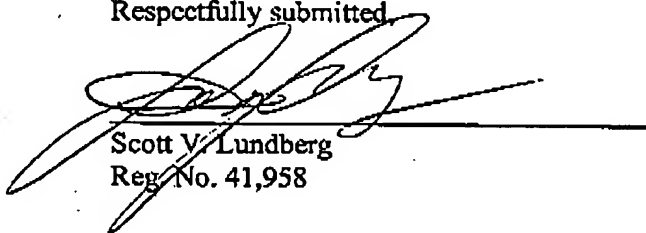
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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 39-56, 58-63, 66, 67, and 85-102 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 455-1690.

Respectfully submitted

Date: 8-24-05

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